

# Enhancement Funds

Purpose of funds to support initiatives that benefit their districts or the county at large

- Address urgent or small-scale community needs, to meet the unique challenges and priorities of their residents
- Support local nonprofit programs civic initiatives or cultural activities
- Fill funding gaps in underserved areas.
- Support youth programs, food banks and senior services, signage, community events
- Essential Community Facilities particularly in rural areas.
- Support small businesses and economic growth
- Fire safety equipment

**Responsive Aid** – allows supervisors to act quickly on constituent requests or unforeseen needs.

**Local empowerment** -strengthens supervisors' engagement with the community by directly supporting local level projects

**Visibility and Transparency** – can demonstrate tangible returns on taxpayer dollars

**Equity and Inclusion** – helps direct resources to marginalized or underserved areas.

- As one of the poorest regions in both the US and Mexico, the AZ-Sonora
- border region struggles with high rates of poverty, low post-secondary education completion rates and high food insecurity.

Stats from Stanford Data Commons and University of Arizona show that

- Douglas poverty rate is the highest in the county (of the cities) and significantly higher than the national avg
  - Pirtleville **33.64%**
  - Naco -**3 1.42%**
  - Douglas **30%**
  - Bisbee is **20% out of 6000 ppl**
  - Tombstone is **13% out of 1200 ppl**

So. AZ Commission on poverty Report 2022 from UoA study of 41 communities and children living at below poverty level

- Douglas is 2nd of 41 for children under 5 -**53%**
- Douglas is 2nd of children under 5-18 **45.3%**
- Is 4th out of 41 18-64 year olds - **23%**
- 65+ 2nd out of 41 at **22%**

Families

- **24.6%** 2nd out of 41

Families with children under 5

- **44%** 3rd out of 41

Female head of household

- 44.9% 2nd out of 41
- Median age of Douglas is 32.9 and Naco is 29.5
- Douglas is 85.44% Hispanic and 83.62% in Naco

## Proposed Use of Funds

- **Pirtleville**
  - Operating with a firetruck from 2008.
  - Entirely volunteer fire department responding to every call.
  - Support needed for asphalt and equipment for their firehouse, which was built with their own funds.
- **McNeal / Double Adobe**
  - Community faces severe poverty and an aging population.
  - Funds would support a nonprofit organization aiming to establish a senior community center.
  - Support traveling Farmers Market food truck and food sustainability
- **Naco**
  - Enhance tourism efforts centered around Camp Naco.
- **Douglas**
  - Invest in economic development initiatives related to the Port of Entry.
- **Bisbee**
  - Support infrastructure to better connect the areas of Lowell and Warren within Bisbee.
- **Other Communities**
  - Provide assistance with trash cleanup.
  - Offer support for proper trash disposal services.

*I need this for my community*

*KG*

**Gomez, Kathleen**

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**From:** Jose Grijalva <jose.grijalva@douglasaz.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 7, 2025 8:36 PM  
**To:** Gomez, Kathleen  
**Subject:** Letter

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To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jose Grijalva and I'm writing as Mayor of Douglas to stress the importance of keeping the discretionary fund balance at the \$75,000 balance it's been annually. As a low income city, it's extremely important to depend on our supervisor for these funds for community events and also economic development. We're very thankful Supervisor Gomez used funds for the Boys & Girls Club and for 2 basketball tournaments. These events raise community morale by giving our local youth and youth around the county something to do and learning vital important traits in team and character building. These two donations also help us economically as it incentivizes families to live in Douglas where kids have somewhere to go and stay off the streets and far away from negative influences. With the new commercial port of entry breaking ground soon (which you all are invited to), Supervisor Gomez and I were brainstorming in cultural events and special events to bring to our city to boost marketing and tourism to bring more outside money to our region. Please reconsider not cutting this as it'll impact Douglas greatly.


Thank you for your time.



**Jose Grijalva**

Mayor

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 N/A



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